THE HISTORY OF ECLIPSES,

Which have happen'd from the Birth of our Saviour down to this preſent Time; with the dreadful Effects attending them in the various Revolutions of Empires, Kingdoms, and Commonwealths; Deſtruction of Towns and Cities by Earthquakes; the Death of Emperors, Kings and Potentates, Famine, Peſtilence, and other ſad Calamities, which have afflicted moſt Parts of the World.

Occaſionally written on the *Phænomenon*, or great ECLIPSE, which was viſible in *London*, and other Parts of *Great-Britain*, on *Friday* the 22d of *April*, 1715, ſhewing what the Effects thereof will be in ſeveral Countries in *Europe*.

By *J. Parker*, late of *Trinity-College*, *Cambridge*.

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THE HISTORY OF ECLIPSES, &c.

IT is said by *Herodotus*, *lib.* 6. That when God is about to punish a Nation or City, he is wont first of all to signifie the same by Prodigies; and as another learned Person has it, God speaks to Men not only with a human Tongue by his Prophets, Apostles and Ministers, but also by the very Elements, in changing them into strange Forms and Shapes. Thus (as *Josephus* relates in his Wars of the Jews, *lib.* 7. *cap.* 12.) strange Signs and Tokens appear'd before the Destruction of *Jerusalem*, for one while there was a Comet appear'd in

form of a fiery Sword, which for a Year together hung over the City; and on the 20th Day of *May*, juſt before the Sun-riſe, was ſeen in the Air all over the Country, Chariots full of armed Men in Battle array, paſſing along in the Clouds, and begirting the City. But to come nearer home concerning Prodigies, Two blazing Stars appear'd, and many other Stars, as if they ſhot fiery Darts at one another, in *England*, in the Reign of *William Rufus*, after which happen'd a great Earthquake and Famine, by which ſuch a Mortality enſu'd, that the Quick was ſcarce able to bury the Dead; and at *Finchampſtead* near *Abingdon* in *Berkſhire*, a Well of bloody-colour'd Water ſprung up for 15 Days, and then ceas'd. In the Reign of *Henry* the Third Four Suns appear'd from the Riſing to the Setting; after which follow'd a great Famine, and 18 *Jews* were hang'd for crucifying a Child, and others ſeverely puniſht for Circumciſing another that had been Chriſten'd. In the Reign of *Edward* the Third blazing Stars appear'd with continued Rains, and a great Mortality through all *Europe* ſo vehemently, that the Dead were more than the Living. In the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth* blazing Stars appear'd, after which happen'd an Earthquake and a Plague, of which 40000 died in and about *London*.

But though it appears by all Hiſtories that Prodigies in the Air are certain Forerunners of Death and Deſolation to Countries, yet are not

not Eclipſes (tho' they proceed from natural Cauſes) without their malevolent Effects, as evidently appears by what follows.

A little after the Birth of *Chriſt* was a notable Eclipſe of the Sun, the fatal Effects whereof were manifeſted by *Herod*'s Cruelty, when he commanded all the Infants in *Bethlehem* to be Maſſacred, in hopes and expectation of killing our bleſſed Saviour. Several Eclipſes yearly happen'd till the 44th Year of *Chriſt*, whoſe Effects were none of the beſt in *Paleſtine*. *Anno Chriſti* 45 was an Eclipſe of the Sun on the 1ſt of *Auguſt*, after which a great Famine rag'd in *Syria*. Then ſeveral Eclipſes both Solar and Lunar happen'd yearly till the 58th Year of *Chriſt*, and prov'd the Indications of Plagues and War, in many Parts of the World. *Anno Chriſti* 59, an Eclipſe of the Sun preceeded the firſt Perſecution of the *Chriſtians*, which began under *Nero*. Eclipſes, whoſe Effects were very grievous to moſt Nations, yearly happen'd till the Year 316; and *Anno* 317 was an *Eclipſe* of the Sun, after which *Arrius* began to poyſon the World with his damnable Hereſie, which impiouſly deny'd the Doctrine of the Trinity, for which he was juſtly punſht, by God, at laſt; for whilſt he was disburthening himſelf of the Neceſſities of Nature, his Bowels came forth, and with them his Life. Many great *Eclipſes* both of the Sun and Moon yearly happen'd till the Year 347; and *Anno Chriſti* 348, was a great Solar *Eclipſe*, when the *Arrian* Hereſie

raged

raged as bad as ever. In the Years 340, 350, 451, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, were many *Eclipſes*, whoſe Effects were of a bad Conſequence to ſeveral Countries; and *Anno Chriſti* 393 was an *Eclipſe* of the Sun, when a Diviſion of the Empire happen'd under *Honorius* and *Arcadius*. From hence to the Year 403 both the Sun and Moon yearly ſuffer'd *Eclipſes*; and *Anno Chriſti* 404, was a Solar *Eclipſe*, after which *Rome* was taken by *Alaric* King of the *Goths*.

Several Eclipſes were yearly ſeen to the Year 526, and *Anno Chriſti* 527, was an Eclipſe of the Sun, when the *Goths* over-ran many Nations with Fire and Sword, leaving behind them the Marks of Deſolution and Ruine whereever they came. Many Eclipſes alſo yearly happen'd from this Time to the Year 591, whoſe Effects were violent throughout *Aſia*, and *Anno Chriſti* 592 happen'd an Eclipſe of the Sun, when *Mahomet* began to infect the eaſtern Part of the World with his deſtructive Doctrine. Then ſeveral Solar and Lunar Eclipſes were yearly ſeen from this Time to the Year 732, and *Anno Chriſti* 733 happen'd an Eclipſe of the Sun, when a great Controverſie aroſe about the Worſhip of Images; the Eaſtern Churches oppoſing that idolatrous Novelty, and the Weſtern Churches at the ſame Time approving it. Alſo ſeveral Eclipſes were yearly viſible to the Year 795, whoſe Effects were of a bad Conſequence throughout *Africk*; then

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Anno Chriſti 796, the the Sun by an Eclipſe was obſcured the ſpace of 17 Days, whoſe Darkneſs was then ſo great that Ships on the Sea went aſtray from their right Courſe: And *Anno Chriſti* 797, was the like Obſcuration of Sun, by an Eclipſe, for the ſpace of 17 Days again. From hence ſeveral Eclipſes yearly happen'd to the Year 802, whoſe Effects were very lamentable throughout *Europe*, and *Anno Chriſti* 802, the Moon was thrice eclipſed, and the Sun once. Then many Eclipſes yearly happen'd to the Year 805, and *Anno Chriſti* 806 the Sun ſuffer'd a great Eclipſe. *Anno Chriſti* 807 was one Eclipſe of the Sun, and the Moon was eclipſed twice. Next Year was a great Eclipſe of the Sun, and *Anno Chriſti* 809, was an Eclipſe of the Moon. *Anno Chriſti* 810, was one Eclipſe of the Sun, and two Defects of the Moon, at which Time happen'd the great Muration under *Charles* the Great, in whoſe Reign the Empire was divided into the Eaſt and Weſt. The next Year happen'd a great Eclipſe of the Sun; and *Anno Chriſti* 812, an Eclipſe of the Sun preceeded the Death of *Charles* the Great, which was ſomewhat prodigious, for a Spot of a black Colour appear'd in the Sun for ſeven Days together; which Prodigy without doubt might ſignifie the Obſcuration of the Goſpel, which then began to be eclipſed under the Popes of *Rome*. Next ſeveral Eclipſes yearly happen'd to the Year 830, and *Anno Chriſti* 831 were three

three *Eclipſes*, one of the Sun, and two of the Moon, after which *Ludovicus Pius* was taken by his Sons, and caſt into Priſon. Then ſeveral *Eclipſes* both Solar and Lunar, were yearly ſeen to the Year 839; and *Anno Chriſti* 840, was ſuch a great *Eclipſe* of the Sun, that the Stars were as plainly ſeen at Noon-day as in the darkeſt Night.

From this Time ſeveral *Eclipſes* yearly happen'd to the Year 1139. and *Anno Domini* 1140 on the 11th of the Calends of *April*, which was our 21ſt of *March*, there was ſo great an *Eclipſe* of the Sun in the Morning, that People were forc'd to light Candles, and moſt People fear'd the Return of the antient Chaos, becauſe they perceiv'd divers Stars near the Sun. The Effects which attended this extraordinary Phenomenon were, that thoſe who were for the Empreſs *Maud*'s juſt Parliamentary Title, took Arms againſt the perfidious Uſurper *Stephen*, defeated him in a Battle near *Lincoln*, and took him Priſoner; upon which the Clergy to ſave themſelves, ſubmitted to the Empreſs, whom they had formerly curs'd; however they afterwards tackt about again in Favour of the Uſurper, who re-obtain'd the Throne for a Time, yet he was forc'd at laſt, in Excluſion of his own Poſterity, to agree to the Settlement of the Crown upon the Empreſs's Son *Henry* the 2d, whom he trayterouſly endeavour'd to have murther'd; but it was providentially prevented, by the Hand of Fate, putting an End to the hateful

ful Life and Reign of this Uſurper, who died ſuddenly of a violent Fit of the Hemerrhoids. Next ſeveral *Eclipſes* yearly happen'd to the Year 1289, and *Anno Domini* 1290 an *Eclipſe* of the Sun did not only proceed the Conſtitution of the *Ottoman* Empire; but likewiſe King *Edward* the Firſt's ſubduing the *Welſh* by killing *Lewelin* their Prince, in a great Battle, whoſe Head, crown'd with Ivy, was ſet upon the *Tower*, and utterly ſubduing thoſe Mountaineers, he made his Son *Edward*, born amongſt 'em at *Carnarvon*, Prince of the Country. Next entering *Scotland*, he made there ſuch a terrible Deſtruction, that the Cities and Towns for the moſt part ſurrender'd, the *Scotch* Nobles ſued for Peace, and in a Parliament held at *Berwick*, they acknowledg'd him their King, ſwearing to be true Subjects to him for ever after.

Several *Eclipſes* were annually ſeen from this Time to the Year 1386, and *Anno Domini* 1387 was a great *Eclipſe* of the Sun on the 5th of *December*, after which King *Richard* the 2d was depos'd and murder'd in *Pontefract* Caſtle in *Yorkſhire*; and in his Reign many Portents and Prodigies were ſeen, as the Bay and Laurel Trees withering throughout *England*, which ſuddenly after became green and flouriſhing; and the deep River near *Bedford* divided into two Streams; leaving the Channel dry for three Miles. Next many *Eclipſes* happen'd annually to the Year 1414, and *Anno Domini* 1415 ſuch

a great *Eclipſe* of the Sun fell out about ſix in the Morning on the 7th of *June*, thar the Birds fell down to the Earth; and ſhortly after King *Henry* the 5th, with a ſmall Army of *Engliſhmen*, obtain'd a ſignal Victory over the *French* at the Battle of *Agincourt* in *France*, ſlaying that Day of the Enemy 1000 Princes, Noblemen, Knights and Eſquires, and 10000 common Soldiers. The Priſoners of Note then taken were *Charles* Duke of *Orleans*, *John* Duke of *Bourbon*, *Lewis de Bourbon*, the Count *de Vendoſme*, the Earl of *Eu*, *Edward de Roven*, and divers others.

Next ſeveral Eclipſes unnually were viſible till the Year 1543; and *Anno Domini* 1544, were four Eclipſes, one of the *Sun*, and three of the *Moon*; the Effect of which were perceiv'd by the Death of King *Henry* the VIIIth, who departed this Life in the 56th Year of his Age, and was interr'd (as *Heath* in his Chronicle of *England* informs us) in the Chappel at *Windſor*.

Again, ſeveral Eclipſes appear'd yearly from this time to the Year 1594; and *Anno Domini* 1595, was an Eclipſe of the *Sun* on the 30th of *March* very viſible in *Magellanica*, at about 15 Minutes paſt 2 in the Afternoon, which is about 45 Minutes paſt 7 in the Afternoon with us in this Climate. It was celebrated in 18 Degrees 55 Minutes of *Aries*, and the Effect of it was a great Infection of the Air, which by a raging Peſtilence deſtroy'd above 3000000

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of Men, Women and Children in thoſe Parts. *Anno Domini* 1596, on the 18th Days of *March* was an *Eclipſe* of the Sun in *Mexicana*, which was darkned 6 Digits, 58 Minutes. *Anno Domini* 1597, on the 1ſt of *September*, was an *Eclipſe* of the Sun in *Darien*, *Jamaica*, *Cuba*, *Hiſpaniola*, and other Iſlands in *America*. *Anno Domini* 1598, was an *Eclipſe* of the Sun, on the 25th of *February* in *Germany*; it fell out in 16 Degrees, 6 Minutes of *Piſces*, and the Effects thereof was attended with a great Mortality of Fiſh which were caſt up dead by the Waves in great Multitudes, on the Maritime Coaſts in ſome Parts of *Europe*, beſides the Deſtruction of many Towns and People by Earthquakes. *Anno Domini* 1599, was an *Eclipſe* of the Sun on the 12th of *July* in the Morning, celebrated in 25 Degrees, 56 Minutes of *Cancer*, and near the *Dragon's Tail*; the Effects whereof was a great Mortality of People by the Bloody-Flux in *Burgundy*, *Holland*, *Zealand*, *Pruſſia*, *Numedia*, *Bithynia*, *Phrygia*, and other Places ſubject to the Influence of this Sign. And *Anno Domini* 1600, was an *Eclipſe* of the Sun on the 5th of *January*, viſible in the *Southern* Parts of the World, but not in our Horizon.

Anno Domini 1601, was a great *Eclipſe* of the Sun, on the 19th of *June* in *China*, and the Iſlands adjacent to that Country, where it was eclipſed 7 Digits, 31 Minutes, and 58 Seconds. *Anno Domini* 1602, was an *Eclipſe* of

the Sun on the 9th of *June*, visible to the In-
habitants near to the Antartick Circle, but no
to us. *Anno Domini* 1603, was a Defect o
the Sun on the 30th of *April*, which was eclip-
sed 11 Digits in *China* and *Tartary*; where i
was celebrated 19 Degrees, 20 Minutes, and
41 Seconds of *Taurus*; and the Effects thereo
prov'd very fatal to Mariners at Sea, and Child
bearing Women. *Anno Domini* 1604, was a
Eclipse of the Sun on the 19th of *April*, i
Arabia, *India*, *Calecut*, and other Countries ad
jacent to them. It was celebrated in 8 De
grees, 40 Minutes, and 8 Seconds of *Taurus*
Anno Domini 1605, was an Eclipse of the Su
on the 8th of *April* in *Madagascar*, celebrated
in 27 Degrees, 44 Minutes, and 58 Seconds o
Aries; and the Effect thereof was a great Mor
tality among the Female Sex only, in that I
sland. *Anno Domini* 1606, was an Eclipse o
the Sun on the 23d of *August*, in *Peruano* an
Terra del Fugo. It was celebrated in 9 Degrees
23 Minutes, and 40 Seconds of *Virgo*; an
the effect thereof was the untimely end o
some petty Kings in *America*, occasion'd by th
Insurrection of their Subjects, who also mad
a grievous Slaughter among themselves.

Anno Domini 1607, was an Eclipse of th
Sun on the 12th of *August*, at 20 Minutes pa
4 in the Afternoon, in *Brasil*; it was celebrate
in 28 Degrees, 36 Minutes, 23 Seconds
Leo: and the Effect thereof were Sieges, Ra
pine, and Plunder, and other Calamities

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War committed by the *Spaniards* on that Iſland. *Anno Domini* 1608, was a great Eclipſe of the *Sun*, on the 5th of *February*, very viſible to our *Antipodes*; for the Body of this glorious Luminary was darken'd 11 Degrees, 24 Min. *Anno Domini* 1606, was in our Horizon 6 Eclipſes, the greateſt whereof was of the *Moon*, on the 30th of *December*, whoſe Body was darkned 19 Degrees, 49 Minutes, and 13 Seconds. *Anno Domini* 1610, was an *Eclipſe* of the *Sun* on the 5th of *December*, in *Syria*, *Rhodes*, and *Cyprus*, the Body of this Planet was eclipſed 9 Digits 7 Minutes; the Duration was 3 Hours 2 Minutes; and being celebrated in 22 Degrees, 44 Minutes, and 7 Seconds of *Sagittary*, the effect thereof prov'd to be a great Mortality of Horſes in thoſe Places.

Anno Domini 1611, was an *Eclipſe* of the *Sun* on the 31ſt of *May*, viſible to thoſe ſailing towards *Calafornia*, and in that part of the *Weſtern* Ocean call'd *Mare del Zur*. *Anno Domini* 1612, was an *Eclipſe* of the *Sun* on the 12th of *November*, and a very great one in the *Weſtern* Parts of the World; as being eclipſed 10 Digits, 11 Minutes, 47 Seconds. *Anno Domini* 1613, were 6 *Eclipſes*, 4 of the *Sun* on the 10th of *April*, 6th of *May*, 3d of *October*, 2d of *November*; and 2 of the *Moon*, on the 24th of *April*, and 18th of *October*. *Anno Domini* 1614, was an *Eclipſe* of the *Sun* on the 29th of *March*, but not viſible in our Horizon. *Anno Domini* 1615, were two Eclipſes only,

only, and both of the Sun on the 19th of *March* and 12th of *September*; the firſt of theſe Defects was a very great one, for in *Goa*, *Calecut*, and other Places in the *Eaſt-Indies*, the Sun was over-ſhadowed 11 Digits, 46 Minutes; and the other Eclipſe, very viſible in *Guinea*, was as great. *Anno Domini* 1616, was an Eclipſe of the Sun on the 7th of *March*, in the *Weſt-Indies*; and being celebrated in 26 Degrees, 57 Minutes, 36 Seconds of *Piſces*, near the *Dragon's Head*, the Effects thereof were Sedition and Cruelties acted in thoſe Parts of the World. *Anno Doimni* 1617, were five Eclipſes, the firſt of the Sun on the 16th of *January*, near the Antartick Pole; the ſecond of the *Moon* on the 10th of *February*, viſible in our Horizon; the third of the *Sun* on the 25th of *February*, in *Muſcovy*; the fourth on the 22d of *July*, in *Finland*, *Biarmia*, and *Lapland*; and the fifth of the *Moon* on the 6th of *Auguſt*, viſible in our Clime.

Anno Domini 1618, happen'd an Eclipſe of the *Sun* on the 16th of *January*, viſible at the Cape of *Good-Hope*, and eclipſed 11 Degrees, 49 Minutes; it was celebrated in 6 Degrees, 1 Minute, 21 Seconds of *Aquarius*, and the Effect thereof afforded matter of great Grief and Sorrow in *Ruſſia*, *Sweden*, *Weſtphalia*, *Bavaria*, *Æthiopia*, *Media* and *Arabia*, where Fire and Sword, Famine and Peſtilence raged a long time. *Anno Domini* 1619, was an Eclipſe of the Sun on the 1ſt of *July*, in *Manicon* and *Damut*,

Damut, two Kingdoms in *Africk*. And *Anno Domini* 1620, was an Eclipſe of the Sun on the 21ſt of *May*, viſible near the Artick Circle.

Anno Domini 1621, was an Eclipſe of the Sun on the 11th of *May*, viſible in our Horizon, and celebrated in 29 Degrees, 49 Minutes, 4 Seconds of *Taurus*; and the Effects thereof was Famine and Peſtilence in *Ruſſia*, *Poland*, *Ireland*, *Lorrain*, *Switzzerland*, *Parthia*, *Perſia*, and *Cyprus*. *Anno Domini* 1622, was a great and horrible Eclipſe of the Sun, on the 23d of *October*, when it was eclipſed 12 Digits, 20 Minutes *fere* in *Narſinga*, *Zeilan*, *Taprobana* and other Iſlands in the *Eaſt-Indies*; the duration of it was 2 Hours, 14 Minutes, and celebrated near the *Dragons Head* in 10 Degrees, 18 Mintues of *Scorpio*. *Anno Domini* 1623, was an Eclipſe of the Moon on the 28th of *September* in *Amin*, *Quivira*, *Tolm*, and other Places in *Mexicana*. *Anno Domini* 1624, was an Eclipſe of the Sun on the 8th of *March*, very viſible in *America*. *Anno Domini* 1625, was an Eclipſe of the Sun on the 26th of *February* in *Virginia*, the duration whereof was 3 Hours, 16 Minutes. *Anno Domini* 1626, was an Eclipſe of the Sun on the 15th of *February* in *Madagaſcar*, and the Iſland of St. *Laurence*. *Anno Domini* 1627, was an Eclipſe of the Moon on the 20th of *January* in *Tartary*, *China*, *Perſia*, *Sumatra*, *Luconia*, *Java* major, and *Java* minor. *Anno Domini* 1628, was an Eclipſe of the Sun on the 15th of *December*, viſible

viſible in *England*, *Ireland*, *France*, *Spain* and the *Canaries*; the duration of it was 3 Hours, 32 Minutes, 20 Seconds; and being celebrated in 3 Degrees, 47 Minutes, 41 Seconds of *Capricorn*, the Effects whereof were ſeen in the Diſgrace and Misfortunes of Noblemen in ſeveral Nations. *Anno Domini* 1629, was a very great Eclipſe of the Sun on the 11th of *June*, for in *Siam*, and the Gulph of *Bengale*, it was darken'd 12 Degrees, 20 Minutes *fere*. *Anno Domini* 1630, was a great Eclipſe of the Sun on the 31ſt of *May*, viſible in our Horizon, where that Planet was over-ſhadowed 12 Digits, 8 Minutes, 41 Seconds; the celebration of it was in 19 Degrees, 9 Minutes, 45 Seconds of *Gemini*, and the Effects thereof produced great Robberies at Land, as well as Pyracies by Sea, in which many barbarous Murders are committed.

From this Time ſeveral Eclipſes, both Solar and Lunar, yearly happen'd till the Year 1647; and *Anno Domini* 1648, an Eclipſe of the Moon happen'd here the 20th of *November*, at 44 Minutes paſt 4 in the Morning; the diſmal Effect whereof was evident in the moſt execrable Murder committed by the then prevailing Republican Party of Villains, who, on the 30th of *January* following, moſt barbarouſly beheaded their lawful Sovereign King *CHARLES the Firſt*, before his own Palace. *Anno Domini* 1649, an Eclipſe of the Sun happen'd here on the 25th of *October*, at 45 Minutes paſt 1 at Noon,

Noon, the Effect whereof was exemplified in the bloody Fight at *Worceſter*.

Anno Domini 1650, was an Eclipſe of the Moon in our Meridian on the 5th of *May*, at 30 Minutes paſt 6 in the Evening; the Effect whereof was ſeen in *Scotland*, which the *Engliſh* enter'd, and had the Caſtle of *Edinburgh* ſurrender'd to them. *Anno Domini* 1651, were ſome ſmall Eclipſes, but not producing any notable Effects, as being here not viſible; and *Anno Domini* 1652, happen'd at *London* an almoſt total Eclipſe of the Sun, on the 29th of *March* laſt, at 50 Minutes paſt 9 in the Morning; the Effects whereof plainly appear'd by the Rebels then trampling upon the Righs and Conſtitution both of Church and State. *Anno Domini* 1653, was a total Eclipſe of the Moon on the 23d of *March*, at 2 Minutes paſt 2 in the Afternoon; the ſad Effects whereof was ſeen by the peſtilent Sect of the *Quakers* beginning then to encreaſe more than ever. *Anno Domini* 1654, an almoſt total Eclipſe of the Sun happen'd here on the 2d of *Auguſt*, at 9 of the Clock in the Forenoon. In 1655 was an Eclipſe of the Sun here on the 27th of *January*, at 5 Minutes paſt 2 in the Afternoon. In 1656 happen'd here an Eclipſe of the Sun on the 16th of *January*, at 45 Minutes paſt 1 at Noon; and in 1657 a total Eclipſe of the Sun happen'd here on the 15th of *June*, at 7 of the Clock at Night; all whoſe Effects were ſeen the following Year, when on the 3d of

tember that Arch-Traytor and Rebel *Oliver Cromwel*, whom the D——l fetcht away in a Whirlwind, departed his moſt infamous Life for one worſer. In 1658 were ſome ſmall Eclipſes, but not of any notable Effects, as being here inviſible; and in 1659, an Eclipſe of the Sun happen'd here on the 4th of *November*, at 30 Minutes paſt 3 in the Afternoon; the Effects whereof were joyfully ſeen by all Loyal People the Year following, when on the 29th of *May* they beheld the Reſtauration of King *Charles* the Second to his rightful Throne, to the great Shame and Confuſion of all thoſe deadly Sectaries here riding paramount juſt before. In 1660 were ſome ſmall Eclipſes; but not notable in any reſpect, as being here not viſible; and *Anno Domini* 1661, was an almoſt total Eclipſe of the Sun here, on the 13th of *September*, at 44 Minutes paſt 11 in the Forenoon.

In 1662 were no Eclipſes viſible in our Horizon, but *Anno Domini* 1663, was a total Eclipſe of the Moon here, on the 8th of *Auguſt* at 6 in the Afternoon; the Effect whereof was ſeen in ſomewhat more than a Year following, when Queen *ANNE* of glorious and immortal Memory was born at St. *James*'s Palace.

In the Year 1664 was no Eclipſe viſible in *England*, but *Anno Domini* 1665, on the 21ſt of *January*, at 47 Minutes paſt 4 in the Morning, was an Eclipſe of the Moon, and in *April* following began that dreadful Plague, whereof

died

died in *London* 68748 Men, Women and Children. And on the 22d of *June*, at 14 Minutes past 6 in the Morning, in the Year 1666, appear'd here an Eclipse of the Sun; the sad Effects whereof were seen on the 2d of *September* following broke out that most dreadful Fire, which laid our Metropolis almost in Ashes, for its Flames consum'd 13200 Houses, besides Churches, publick Halls, and other fine Edifices. This last Eclipse appear'd almost total at *Rome*, but in *England* it was not 8 Digits darkned, and in *Ireland* not full half obscur'd, all which was caused by the Moon's Parallax.

From this Time to the Year 1687 were annually here several Eclipses, and *Anno Domini* 1688 we had two Eclipses of the Sun, one in *Taurus*, the other in *Scorpio*, and is remarkable for the Revolution made by King *William*'s coming hither from *Holland*. From this Time we had no remarkable Eclipses till the Years 1704 and 1705, when we had two Eclipses of the Sun in *Taurus* and *Scorpio*; the Effects whereof were the taking of *Barcelona* and *Gibraltar*, forcing the *French* Lines, and gaining the Victories of *Schellenberg* and *Hochstet*. On the 1st of *May*, *O. S.* 1706, happen'd a great Eclipse of the Sun in *Spain*, about a quarter past 9 in the Morning, and continued for 6 Minutes so dark, that the Day lookt like Night; and the Effects obliged the *French* King's Army under Marshal de Tesse, to march off from before Barcelona, leaving all their Artillery, Ammunition and

Proviſions, with the greateſt Part of their heavy Baggage behind, and his Grandſon, the Duke of Anjou to quit the Country. In 1707 we had two more Eclipſes in *Taurus* and *Scorpio*, the Effects whereof were our winning the Battles of *Oudenard*, *Winnendale*, *Blareignes*, *Saragoſſa*, and taking *Liſle*, *Tournay*, *Mons*, *Douay*, *Aire*, *Bethune*, *Bouchain*, and other Places: Thus *Great-Britain* flouriſht, whilſt *France* was reduced to the greateſt Diſtreſs by the Sword, Sickneſs, Poverty and Famine, and Death rid in Triumph thro' its Royal Palaces.

Anno Domini 1708, we had a ſmall Eclipſe of the Sun on the 3d of *September* in the Morning, but it being ſcarce viſible but where the Air was clear (*Partridge* ſays in his Almanack for this Year) were not worth obſerving. *Anno Domini* 1709, was an Eclipſe of the Sun on *Wedneſday* the 24th of *Auguſt*, which was *Whalley* and *Clatchie* ſay in their *Iriſh* Almanacks for that Year, inviſible to us; but to ſuch as were removed 165 Degrees *Eaſtward* from *London*, it was ſome Writers of *Scotch* Almanacks ſay ſay) a great Eclipſe, and conſpicuous in their Meridian. In 1710 were ſome Eclipſes, but not of any notable Effect here. In 1711 was an Eclipſe of the Sun on the 7th of *January* in the Morning, but both (*Andrews* ſays in his *Ephemeris* for that Year) inviſible to us: Again in the ſame Year (as *Moore* tells us in his Almanack) was an Eclipſe of the Sun on the 4th of *July*, near Seven of the Clock

Clock in the Evening. And alſo in the ſame Year was another Eclipſe of the Sun on the 28th of *December* in the Morning; which (as *Parker* in his *Ephemeris* ſays) was in the more remote *Southern* Parts of the World, where the Moon's Parallax was *North*, both total and central. In 1712 were ſome Eclipſes, but their Effects did not operate here; and in 1713 were alſo ſome Eclipſes, but how many *Tipper* in his Almanack for this Year takes no notice. In 1714 was an Eclipſe of the Sun on the 26th of *November*, viſible in the moſt *North-Eaſt* Parts of *Tartary*, and about the Artick Circle *Eaſtwards* of the aforeſaid Country, but as it was inviſible here, it could not (*Sounder* ſays in his Almanack) affects us in the leaſt.

But now we come to treat on the great and aſtoniſhing Eclipſe which happen'd in this preſent Year 1715, and according to the moſt exact Obſervations then taken, at 10 Minutes paſt 8 of the Clock in the Morning, at *London*, the greateſt Obſcurity at 9, and ſo continu'd almoſt 5 Minutes, when it began to clear again. Some Stars were very viſible, both before and after its Obſcuration, eſpecially *Meduſa*'s Head, the firſt Star in *Aries*, the the *Bull*'s Eye, *Whale*'s Mouth, *Pegaſus*'s Wing, and the biggeſt Star in the Conſtellation, call'd *Pleiades*.

It was alſo viſible at *Rome*, *Stockholm* and *Paris*, and therefore thoſe Places will moſt feel the Effects of it, to the no ſmall Detriment of the

the King of *Sweden*'s Affairs; and if (as ſome learned Aſtrologers obſerve) this Eclipſe falls out in the Seventh Houſe of the *French* King's Nativity, and in Oppoſition to his Aſcendant, it naturally infers that it threatens him more than any other Potentate; but what the Effects of this Eclipſe will be in this Nation, I leave to Time to determine: However, this I'll ſay, that you ſhall never hear of any of theſe Defects of the Sun and Moon ſpoken of in Scripture, but it is always before ſome great Effect of God's Judgment approaching to puniſh ſome Part of the Earth.

FINIS.

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